

**CITY OF KANKAKEE  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
SUMMARY OF MINUTES  
MONDAY, AUGUST 3RD, 2020  
7:00 P.M.**

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** I will call the meeting to order. Meetings are accessible to the public through Comcast Channel 4, City of Kankakee YouTube Channel and the City of Kankakee Website. We will move on to prayer by Reverend Dave Robinson from Genesis Community Ministries and move on to the Pledge of Allegiance led by the City Council. Item 4 on the Agenda, Public Comments. Please give your name and direct your comments to the Mayor. Comments are limited to five minutes.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**STEVEN J. HUNTER:**

Good evening, I was whispering to Dave Baron that I thought we'd have a moment of silence for Congressman John Lewis but we didn't. Our students in School District 111, as well as, throughout the state have not been in school since March. My concern is what we're going to do with our kids in terms of structured activities for them. An idol mind is the devil's playground. I would hope that the city would be involved with other institutions in the county, with respect to developing programs that would help our youth. If I recall, I think I've seen several students working down at public works. I think there were three working this summer. There were a couple of new faces I saw at the old Kankakee Federal building where the vehicle stickers were being sold. I assume they were college students or high school students. I would hope and pray that we would have some kind of summit conference, involving different entities to develop some kinds of activities for kids in the fall and winter. The structured activities in the schools have been curtailed and held over to the spring. When we were kids, of course we had a myriad of things to do in the neighborhoods. Now with the social distancing which causes some concern, we don't have the activities for our kids. When I was Alderman years ago, we had different things we were doing with the kids. We had KCAP,

The kids had different things they could do for the seniors. We had paint donated by Valspar to paint addresses on the curbs, cut grass, and do a myriad of things for the citizens in the city. Recently, I had a conversation with Commissioner JJ Hollis at a luncheon or dinner meeting last Friday about activities. I also talked with several individuals who are prominent in this particular community about what we're going to do regarding activities. I talked with the Superintendent of schools, I talked with the Sheriff and talked with the state's attorney, also talked to State Senator Patrick Joyce, and other individuals regarding what we could do. Should we have a summit involving all the different entities? Do we need to expand the YMCA programs. We need to interface with the community based organizations, so they could identify some projects in the various neighborhoods. Adopt some neighborhoods cleanup the city, work on different projects that we... address. Paint walls, paint murals, and other things as well too. I've also talked to some of the Aldermen on the council and they've agreed that a summit is needed. So, I extend my hand out to you to afford us an opportunity to work together for activities for the youth. Thank you.

**KENNETH WRIGHT:**

I just wanted to come and just introduce myself to the city council and the Mayor. I am ashamed to say I haven't been to a city council meeting in a long time. But I do look forward to coming to them every month and interested in seeing the direction that our city council is gonna take our city. I was born and raised here in Kankakee, I graduated from Kankakee High School, class of 91. I see a lot of people in here that I know and I've seen throughout my travels and I'm very honored to be a part of the Kankakee County community. Thank you very much.

**LANCE MARCZAK:**

I'm sure some of you are disappointed I could not attend in person. I just wanted to bring up the fact that, on one hand I understand why some of the aldermen were outraged at some of the others for not passing the budget at the last meeting. But on the other hand, I totally understand if none of you talk to each other as representatives of the city, especially prior to voting on things as important as the budget. Maybe none of you had time to even make a call to each other? I don't know. But what I do know is some of the aldermen that opposed passing are not wrong at all just want to time to look through the pages and the items. If in fact this was tossed on the desk just that day. As a taxpayer,

I myself would have loved to see what was in the budget but not find it any place if it was posted. I'm sure, this could be debated longer than we have time for. But the time for action is now, time for being fiscally responsible. I can't believe that some of you will not even take the time to attend a special meeting one week later, the time for cutting and saving is now, right now, the times we are living in are definitely not something that anyone could have predicted, it is not doing business as usual, and we can't do what we have always done in the past. The time for leadership is now and each and every one of you should be working as a team to cut and save the taxpayers every dime you can. If ever there was a time to save, the time is now. With that being said, I would like to bring up the fact that the Mayor of Bradley pulled out of the Kankakee County Convention and Visitor's Bureau, because he just wanted to see what they were getting for the money that's being spent. Why are we not asking the same question? The *(inaudible)* company sure left everyone holding the bag. What a joke. As leaders, you should want to know where \$1 million of taxpayer dollars is going. What exactly do we get for that money, just like everything in the budget what exactly are we getting? The public should be able to see exactly where the money is going. Is there any question as to why the village of Bradley wanted to know where the money is going? How about the city of Kankakee? I don't think it is asking too much. Thank you. *(Comment Read by Mayor Wells-Armstrong).*

## **ROLL CALL**

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Okay, we will move on to Item 5, Roll Call of the City Council.

**CLERK DUMAS:** **PRESENT:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Swanson *(via phone)*, Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude  
(14) Present (0) Absent

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Thank you. Item B Department Heads.

**CLERK DUMAS:** **PRESENT:** Kosman, Schuldt, Kambic, McGrath, Piggush, Nelson, Schmitz, Ellexson, Hoffman, Brewer-Watson.

**MAYOR WELLS ARMSTRONG:** Thank you. Item 6A Minutes from Monday

July 6th, 2020. May I have a motion to approve?

**ALD LEWIS**

So move.

**ALD TETTER:**

Second.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motioned by Alderwoman Lewis and Seconded by Alderman Tetter. Any edits to the minutes? All in favor, Aye?

**COUNCIL:**

Aye.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Opposed, same sign? Minutes are approved. Item 6B Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 those minutes will be provided at a later date as noted on the agenda. Moving on to Item 7 Petitions.

### **PETITIONS**

**ITEM 7A:**

PB2020-6-2 Ordinance Approving Conditional Use Permit to ARAK Auto for a Used Motor Vehicle Sales Business at 195 West Station Street in the City of Kankakee Illinois (*1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading*).

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** If there's no objection, I'll ask for a motion to suspend the rules that interfere with the passage of the ordinance.

**ALD LEWIS:**

I make a motion to suspend the rules.

**ALD TETTER:**

Second.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motion by Alderwoman Lewis and Seconded by Alderman Tetter. Roll Call.

**CLERK DUMAS:**

**AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Faford, Swanson (*via phone*), Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude

**ABSTAIN:** Tall  
(13) Ayes (0) Nays (1) Abstention

**MAYOR WELLS ARMSTRONG:** Motion carries.

**MIKE HOFFMAN:**

So this case is for a conditional use permit to operate a used car operation at the North East Corner of Station and Washington. this business, ARAK Auto actually had the same type of business at the other corner of the property.

He acquired this northeast corner and moved his business to there, not knowing that he needed a conditional use permit. I said well you need to get one. He was very cooperative with the application and right away. We held a public hearing on this. In July, at the planning board the planning board recommended approval with two conditions one that he secured an agreement with the neighboring property to provide some offsite parking for his operation. His current site at least when I drove by had about 14 cars on the site which was the entire site there would be no parking for guests or employees, but he did have an arrangement with the neighboring property to handle that customer and employee parking so they reserved four spaces on their site to accommodate that offsite parking. So that was one of the conditions recommended by the planning board, as well as, they have some of those little flags going around the outside of the property for the grand opening and the planning board was comfortable with that for a grand opening but sometimes those end up remaining up there forever. So they recommended those be removed within two months, those are the two conditions that were recommended for approval. Otherwise the planning board was comfortable with this proposal.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Thank you Mike. May have a motion to place the ordinance on final passage?

**ALD LEWIS:** I make a motion to place the ordinance on final passage.

**ALD TETTER:** Second.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motion by Alderwoman Lewis and Seconded by Alderman Tetter. Any discussion on this item? Alderman Tall?

**ALD TALL:** Yes, Mr. Hoffman, do we have any working bathroom facilities, because I'm getting complaints of people using the bathroom outside.

**MIKE HOFFMAN:** *(inaudible)* I just don't see him. I would assume the building does have restroom facilities in it. I have not actually been in the interior of the structure.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Any other discussion? Roll Call.

**CLERK DUMAS:** **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis,

Faford, Swanson (*via phone*), Osenga, O'Brien, Gall,  
Malone Marshall, Prude

**NAYS:** Tall

**ABSTAIN:** Crawford

(12) Ayes (1) Nays (1) Abstention

**MAYOR WELLS ARMSTRONG:** Motion carries. Moving on to Item 8 Communications.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

**ITEM 8A:** ST. John United Church of Christ, 1045 West River Street is Requesting a Street Closure of South Rutledge Avenue at the Corner of West River to the Corner of the Park Off of Enos Avenue to Host their Outdoor Worship Service on Sunday, August 9th from 9:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M.

**ITEM 8B:** New Vision Missionary Baptist Church, 1501 East Merchant Street is Requesting a Noise Permit to Host their Outdoor Worship Service on Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, Sunday August 16<sup>th</sup>, Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M.

**ITEM 8C:** Second Baptist Church 717 North Wildwood Avenue is Requesting a Noise Permit to Host their "Outdoor Worship Service" on Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020, Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020, Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 and Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020, From 8:00 A.M. Until 8:00 P.M.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** If there are no objections I'd like to combine those items.  
May I have a motion to approve?

**ALD COBBS:** So move.

**ALD CRAWFORD:** Second.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motioned by Alderman Cobbs and Seconded by Alderman Crawford. Any discussion on those items? Alderman Tall?

**ALD TALL:** Yes, there was something that came to the ordinance committee the other day to go out to legal. There's a question whether or not we should have an ordinance to take care of all these because during the pandemic we've been in several requests. I don't know where we're at with that.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** You can talk to legal after the meeting or he can answer

when he gives his updates. So we have a motion in a second to approve. Any other discussion on these? All in favor, aye?

**COUNCIL:** Aye.

### **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Opposed? Motion carries. Item 9 Standing Committee Reports we have none for this agenda. Moving on to Item 10 Reports of Officers. May I have a motion to approve those bills?

**ALD FAFORD:** I move that we approve the report of officers, place the money in the in the proper accounts and pay the bills in the amount of \$432,979.37.

**ALD LEWIS:** Second.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motion made by Alderman Faford and Seconded by Alderwoman Lewis. Any discussion? Alderman Osenga?

**ALD OSENGA:** Yes, check #76670 for \$795.00

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** EMS and Labor that's the Fire Department.

**CHIEF SCHULDT:** Annual Maintenance...(inaudible)

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** For the Stretchers on the ambulance?

**CHIEF SCHULDT:** Yes.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Thanks Chief. We have a motion and a second. Anybody else? Roll Call.

**CLERK DUMAS:** **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Faford, Swanson (*via phone*), Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude  
**NAYS:** Tall, Crawford  
(12) Ayes (2) Nays

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motion carries. Item 10B Community Development Agency. Barbie is not here. Alderwoman Swanson, do you have anything you? Would you like to make that motion?

**ALD SWANSON:** I would like to make a motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$221,264.55

**ALD MALONE MARSHALL:** Second.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motioned by Alderwoman Swanson and Seconded by Alderwoman Malone Marshall. Any discussion? Alderman Osenga?

**ALD OSENGA:** Check #14103 Silver Broom

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** That's a cleaning agency. Anybody else? Roll Call.

**CLERK DUMAS:** **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Faford, Swanson (*via phone*), Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude  
**NAYS:** Tall, Crawford  
(12) Ayes (2) Nays

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motion carries. Item 11 Unfinished Business we have none. Moving on to Item 12A.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**ITEM 12A:** Ordinance Amending Chapter 4 Section 4-13 of the Municipal Code of the City of Kankakee by Adding Liquor License Number 25, Business Known as "Downtown" (*1<sup>ST</sup> & 2<sup>ND</sup> Reading*).

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** If there are no objections, I'll take a motion to suspend the rules that will interfere with the passage of the ordinance.

**ALD GALL:** I make the motion to suspend the rules

**ALD TETTER:** Second.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motioned by Alderwoman Gall and Seconded by Alderman Tetter. Roll Call.

**CLERK DUMAS:** **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Swanson (*via phone*), Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude  
(14) Ayes (0) Nays

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motion carries. May I have a motion to place the ordinance on final passage?



**ALD GALL:** I so move.

**ALD TETTER:** Second.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motioned by Alderwoman Gall and Seconded by Alderman Tetter. Any discussion on this item? Alderman Osenga?

**ALD OSENGA:** I see it says facility downtown. What location, what address is that?

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** The former No Dogs. She's naming it Downtown.

**ALD OSENGA:** (*inaudible*) it says Liquor License Number 25. Is this an old one we are not using anymore?

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Kris

**KRIS SCHMITZ:** It's a new number.

**ALD OSENGA:** Okay, Thank you.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Alderman Crawford?

**ALD CRAWFORD:** That was the same question I had.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Okay. Any other discussion? Roll Call.

**CLERK DUMAS:** **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Swanson (*via phone*), Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude  
(14) Ayes (0) Nays

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motion carries. Moving onto Item 12B

**ITEM 12B:** Annual Budget for the Fiscal year May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 and Ending April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading).

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** I spoke with Burt. I know that Mr. Marczak made a comment about not having access to the budget. There were 4 public meetings held for the Budget Committee and this was assessed the city council, however due to some information that was provided to us recently, we are formalizing our process to be in compliance. So a notice of the public hearing was sent to the City Clerk's office today to be filed in her office, and we have a public hearing

scheduled on August 17 at 6:45 P.M. So that's how we will be moving forward with that item.

**ITEM 12C:**

Recommendation to Approve American Land Title Association National Society and Professional Surveyor's Survey Proposal, in the Amount of \$3,680.00 for the Properties Located at 270 North Indiana Avenue, 295 North Harrison Avenue and 254-256 North Harrison Avenue.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** These are Neil's here tonight he had another meeting. So I have some notes I just took from him. These are tied to the Labeau property on Harrison. And these three land title survey, and they need to be paid for out of ESU funds. May I have a motion to approve that recommendation?

**ALD SWANSON:**

I would like to make that motion.

**ALD COBBS:**

Second.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motion made by Alderwoman Swanson and Seconded by Alderman Cobbs. Any discussion on this item? Alderman Curtis?

**ALD CURTIS:**

Thank you. So, as part of the contract the sellers are not paying for surveys, we are as a city is? Typically a seller pays for survey. It's all negotiable but probably nine out of 10 times the seller pays. I was just curious on that.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Okay, Thank you. Any other discussion. Roll Call.

**CLERK DUMAS:**

**AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Swanson (*via phone*), Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Malone Marshall, Prude

**ABSTAIN:** Gall

(13) Ayes (0) Nays (1) Abstention

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motion carries. Moving on to Item 12D.

**ITEM 12D:**

Recommendation to Approve Preliminary Environmental Site Assessment Proposal by Huff & Huff, Inc., in the Amount of \$5,992.61 for the South Schuyler Bike Lane Project.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** This is related to the style of pipeline project, and I have

note here from Neil. So, IDOT is requiring a preliminary environmental site assessment is called a Pisa, for the three blocks was facing the streets of River Street says there is proposed excavation within the city, right away for the construction project. This came as a result of some of the historical uses on the property...so if you remember in the 300 block next to Tyson Engineering, the former gas station there. And so we have to do our due diligence to make sure there's not going to be any potential for contaminated soil. So IDOT is requiring that we do this, and then IDOT will be doing it on their part as well. So that's what this relates to. May I have a motion to approve the recommendation?

**ALD LEWIS:** So move

**ALD TETTER:** Second

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motion made by Alderwoman Lewis and Seconded by Alderman Tetter. Any discussion on that item? Roll Call.

**CLERK DUMAS:** **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Swanson (*via phone*), Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Malone Marshall, Prude  
**ABSTAIN:** Gall  
(14) Ayes (0) Nays (1) Abstention

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motion carries. Item 12E Appointments we have none tonight. Moving on to Item 13 Motions and resolutions.

## **MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS**

**ITEM 13A:** Re- Proclamation of the Declaration of Local State of Emergency.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** So we continue to remain under the state of emergency. This will take us from July 31 to August 15 just want to encourage everyone to wear your masks and I want to thank everyone tonight. Everybody's being cooperative with that, when our masks and washing our hands frequently. I want to make sure that we all stay safe and keep our economy open. I did put in my updates to the city council on Friday night that IML has drafted some language around requiring masks, which tells me that they're getting concerned about our numbers. So I just want to make sure that we are mindful. I know they can be hot

at times, but this is really our best way right now that we have from our public health experts to keep each other safe and not spread this virus, and to keep the economy open. So I want to thank you for compliance tonight on that. Moving on to Item 13B.

**ITEM 13B:** Proclamation Declaring August 9<sup>th</sup> –August 15<sup>th</sup> 2020 American Wind Week. (*Read by the Mayor*).

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** May I have a motion to approve proclamation?

**ALD COBBS:** So move.

**ALD PRUDE:** Second.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motioned by Alderman Cobbs and Seconded by Alderman Prude. All in favor, Aye?

**COUNCIL:** Aye.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motion approved. Moving on to Item 13C.

**ITEM 13C:** Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement Between Kankakee Development Corporation, and the City of Kankakee to Establish a Mural Program to Enhance, Beautify, and Promote, the Downtown area of the City of Kankakee.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** I had a meeting with Brad Kuntz, who is currently the President of KDC on Friday. I just wanted to give a shout out to both Jasmyne, who's our Marketing and Community Communications Coordinator and Brad Benoit who's our Business Attraction and Retention Coordinator. Brad had nothing but good things to say about the two of you thinks that the city and KDC are working very well together. And they would like to partner with us to bring a Mural Program to downtown. So I believe Dave Baron is here, he's the...I think over the Marketing Committee with KDC and he'll come share some ideas and vision with us.

**DAVE BARON:** Thank you very much Mayor. Madam Clerk, Council Members, thank you very much for having me. I am on the board of the Kankakee Development Corporation (KDC). I'm also the Chair of the Marketing Committee. First of all, I just want to say thank you for all of your support for all of our work downtown, both on the council and individually

for supporting our businesses, it's a testament that even in the midst of a global pandemic and a severe economic downturn. Businesses open. A lot of them, and more opening downtown. Just this week, Nail Salon just open Stationery Cafe opened a few weeks ago last night a new business and the majestic was just announced the Swanky Home which is a home decor gift shop. So it's a testament to I think a lot of what you were doing and hopefully what we're trying to do with KDC, that we do have some forward progress in downtown, a key part of that progress that we think is a good thing to do is increased the walkability of the area of downtown. One way to do that is to change the psychology of an area. And you can do that through public art. Public art is a very key aspect of changing how people view and take pride in a particular area. We've decided to do that with KDC and many of you sit on the board of KDC and are part of this by hosting and promoting a series of murals downtown that are going to change the psychology and help bolster the image. Is there a very specific type of murals. These are not big murals that you're gonna see across the entire side of a building. These are relatively small. None bigger than eight feet tall. They're all going to be colorful and hopefully you'll see the word Kankakee somewhere on each one of them. The idea with these murals is they're supposed to be postable, instagrammable, they're supposed to take your phone out and take your picture with you while you were downtown Kankakee showing everybody that you're having a good time. We're looking to do four different murals, we've already finished the first in partnership with Kankakee County, they've allowed us to put what we're calling the hub mural on the old veterans Assistance Commission, and we're already seeing a number of Instagram photos up there, people showing that they are downtown inviting others to do the same. This next mural that we're looking at doing would be on the corral of the Midland state's bank, which is down in the farmer's market parking lot. It is used that corral it's garbage corral but it has a nice flat surface for a small mirror. We're looking for ways to talk with Midland... it's on city property so that's why we're coming to the city as well for permission to use that wall, but it would be to promote really the farmers market without saying the words farmers market. It's going to be a colorful pattern fruits and vegetables that are sold at the farmers market, promoting themes of biodiversity growth, vitality, vibrancy. So, with your permission, we would like to be

able to move forward. As I mentioned, Midland has signed the agreement, KDC has authorized our President to sign the agreement, asking for the Mayor to sign the agreement as well. Thank you.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** May I have a motion to approve the resolution?

**ALD GALL:** So move.

**ALD CRAWFORD:** Second.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motioned by Alderwoman Gall and Seconded by Alderman Crawford. Any discussion? Roll Call.

**CLERK DUMAS:** **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Swanson (*via phone*), Crawford, Osenga, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude  
**ABSTAIN:** Curtis, O'Brien  
(12) Ayes (0) Nays (2) Abstentions.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motion carries. Moving on to Item 13D.

**ITEM 13D:** Resolution Authorizing Expenditure of City Funds Consistent with Fiscal Year 2019/2020.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** So usually, our new budget year begins May1 and we usually pass a continuing resolution every year that ends in July, because we usually pass our budget by the second meeting in July. So this is just to continue the extension of continuing resolution. May I have a motion to approve?

**ALD BROWN:** So move.

**ALD O'BRIEN:** Second.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motioned by Alderman Brown and Seconded by Alderman O'Brien. Any discussion? Roll Call

**CLERK DUMAS:** **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Swanson (*via phone*), Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude  
(14) Ayes (0) Nays

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motion carries. Moving onto Item 13E.

**ITEM 13E:** Resolution Adopting a Flex Services Agreement for Real

Gunfire Analysis, Between Shotspotter in the City of Kankakee.

**CHIEF KOSMAN:**

Good evening, your honor and members of the council. This resolution would prove the execution of an agreement between the City and Shotspotter for a software system and with that would have a gunshot detection, location, and forensic analysis system for a square mile. Just subscription is for one year has been tight been approved by the public safety committee meeting, and also been discussed here at the Council level also.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Alderman Brown you Chair Public Safety, did you have anything you wanted to add?

**ALD BROWN:**

Nothing added there, other than very thorough. Legal has it For review. That's what we are waiting no legal review.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Alright. May have a motion to approve the resolution?

**ALD OSENGA:**

I make the motion to suspend the rules

**ALD BROWN:**

Second.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motioned by Alderman Osenga and Seconded by Alderman Brown. Roll Call.

**CLERK DUMAS:**

**AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Swanson (*via phone*), Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude  
(14) Ayes (0) Nays

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motion carries. Chief, I want to thank you guys the game consists of secured grant funding, correct?

**CHIEF KOSMAN:**

Yes. The system is \$49,500 per year and we have a grant For \$48,133 about \$1400 dollars it'll cost for the one year subscription. Thank you.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Thank you. We do have a need for an executive session this evening. For the purpose of: Personnel the appointment employment compensation discipline performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, we will be discussing the

personnel issue and some pending or imminent litigation. I will need for those of you can step out. May I have a motion to go in to Executive Session.

**ALD BROWN:** Under what statue is that we make the motion?

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:**For the purpose of personnel and litigation.

**ALD BROWN:** I make the motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of personnel and litigation.

**ALD TETTER:** Second.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motioned by Alderman Brown and Seconded by Alderma Tetter. Roll Call.

**CLERK DUMAS:** **PRESENT:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Swanson (*via phone*), Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude  
(14) Present (0) Absent

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motion carries. We are in Executive Session.

### **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motion to leave Executive Session and Return to Open Session...

**ALD LEWIS:** So move.

**ALD COBBS:** Second.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motioned by Alderwoman Lewis and Seconded by Alderman Cobbs. Roll Call please.

**CLERK DUMAS:** **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Swanson (*via phone*), Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude  
(14) Ayes (0) Nays

### **ACTION RESULTING FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:**Motion carries. We are back in Open Session. Roll Call.



**CLERK DUMAS:**

**PRESENT:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Swanson (*via phone*), Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude  
(14) Present (0) Absent

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** There is no action resulting From Executive Session.  
Moving on to Item 16 City Council Member comments.

### **ALDERMEN & ALDERWOMEN COMMENTS**

**ALD CURTIS:**

We will have a License & Franchise meeting this Thursday at 5:30 P.M. in the chambers. I have reached out to all the utility representatives we haven't seen them in a while, to let them know we are meeting in person. If they feel uncomfortable meeting a person, I've asked him to provide an email update so you can share that with the committee, going forward. Then I just thought I wanted to make a few comments regarding the budget meeting special meeting last Monday. I wasn't here but I called in to make some comments. I just want to make a few more. My biggest concern again, I understand we need to pass the budget but after reviewing the document that we had there was a lot of information in that document that I felt over the last week or the week before that. I just believe that there's further cuts that we can make in this pandemic and COVID situation. I hope I'm wrong, I hope we are all wrong, that business will continue strong. What we're seeing an uptick not only in Illinois in the area but across the nation, there's predictions it that this could get worse before it gets better in the fall. I'm concerned with just furthering expenses, even more so that we have a larger surplus in case some of that revenue stream doesn't come in that we project, even at a conservative level. If it does come in that's great, that allows us a surplus going in to do some things. It allows us to have that towards reserves and other projects that we've been targeting. As I go through so my biggest concerns are, where can we cut some of the surpluses and that's where I was going through it. The biggest concern is last year, our revenue and our expenses were quite different. We have always had a positive number each year coming in. Last year, what was presented to us look like we had a deficit of nearly 1.2 million, and that was at a good time, a month and a half going into our fiscal year. So, I'm concerned about what 2020 fiscal year looks like. If you look at legal in 2019, we spent \$427,000. In our last past fiscal year we spent \$390,000 which is over \$105,000 for a budget of 285

that we had last year. Even with the budget, increasing by another 40,000. We're still way over spending that even when we keep projecting in this coming budget. A lot of things going on with planning things of that nature but for 2019. We spent \$187,000. Last year, he spent \$366,000 which is \$235,000 over budget. We missed that mark for 200%. \$182,000 was spent on the plat maps. My understanding is a small portion to come back for reimbursement that is nowhere near that amount budgeted at \$11,000. We budgeted basically \$99,000 or \$100,000 we spent \$182,000. on consulting services. Again, this that marked by 80%. We're now projecting that we're looking to spend nearly \$156,000 annually going forward. So that's another thing there. I'm also concerned about in this specific time, I don't know what our salaries are out there but we had one item ago giving nearly a nine and a half percent raise. I know what union contracts and things of that nature we have anywhere from 1.75 maybe up to 2 percent. But in this time again being fiscally responsible I think it's difficult to justify anything over a two and a half to 3% raise right now. I think people are going through difficult times and to see a 10% raise in a COVID situation, I just think it's a place we shouldn't be going down. So these are just some of the items that I think that we can consider, continue to look at this budget and continue to try to cut some costs, so we can create a higher surplus going forward, and making sure that we've got the money that we'll need to get through April 30 2021. Thank you.

**ALD O'BRIEN:**

I've continued to get a few comments about homelessness in the downtown area. And I think we all agree this not just the city of Kankakee issue we're sort of the face of it but it's not a city only issue. So I think it's important that each that we can work with other municipalities in the county in trying to address this in a comprehensive way instead of being on our own, and they may not think that this is their issue but I think it is and whatever we can do to help remind our fellow local governments in the community that this is a county wide challenge. I think that's the appropriate way to go and make sure we come up with a comprehensive solution is. That's the way to pursue this issue. Thank you.

**ALD TETTER:**

A couple of weeks ago we were presented on a balanced budget I'll remind our colleagues of this. The budget was balanced. There were money set aside for capital projects.

Economic Development, which we are desperately in need of. And when we speaking about fiscally responsible. I think it comes to the forefront is first of all, one of our duties of fiduciary responsibility to pay as a Budget and we have not done that. And that's not on anyone except for the 14 members in this chamber, because we are the ones who take the vote. It's beyond me as to why we are here in August and since I've been here going on eight years. This has never happened. So, I just call it what it is. It's politics at play again and we should not harm 27,000 people, because you have a problem with one person. Let us be better than that. We are better than that. Our children, our grandchildren, our neighbors are looking at us and we are just a better than what we are showing right now. That's all I have.

**ALD BROWN:**

Think that we will help public safety tomorrow afternoon at 5:30 P.M. I have invited State's Attorney Jim Rowe to do a presentation of the Civilian Review Board. I think it'd be very informative so he will be here. And I would like to make a brief statement about the budget. My statement is very simple. All these figures that that Alderman Curtis gave, we have had four meetings, and I've never seen those figures before. If these numbers are in there, I just need to see it, I didn't see it before. And, and I will go back, look at it, that's good. The other thing is too is that I think Lance said its a shame that some of the Alderman did not show up. Well, the one thing is the first meeting day. I heard about the street before I heard that anybody else. And I was kind of upset about that. But that was cancelled because I guess lack of notice, whatever. The second one that Monday. The reason I did not show up is because I had a medical procedure. I think its courtesy and respect if you want to have a special meeting and you're the Chairman you should at least reach out to your committee and let them know that basically you're having that meeting. And if they can't make it...but I feel like, how do you disrespect your committee, by not informing them of this meeting this will occur whether you are there or not. Today is not like you got to pick up the phone in color but you can do it by email, text, whatever you want to call it today, but I had no notice of anything. And certainly, I was never going to change my medical procedure for that reason and what that medical procedure is between me my doctor. But the fact that of the matter is that is the reason I was not there and I just felt disrespected that I was not contacted before the

people on the street hear about it. I just feel like the committee's should hear about it first. Thank you.

**ALD OSENGA:**

Thank you Mayor short and sweet. I was not at City Council on July 20, and I just wanted to be on record that I was in the hospital having surgery, and I didn't want anybody to be critical because I did not show up and I want my constituents to think I'm playing hooky. I was having surgery.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Alderman Osenga, you usually contact me when you're not going to be here and I appreciate you doing that. You contacted me directly, so we knew. Thank you.

**ALD MALONE MARSHALL:**

I know that we're in the middle of a pandemic. So things are very different. And a lot of things are new to all of us. But first, I think we need to thank our city employees because they are working through this pandemic and they're keeping us safe. You and keeping things in order. I also think we need to thank the Mayor and her Administration and the Clerk for continuously putting in endless hours for the good of our great city. And last but not least, I think, I think my City Council members are continuing to work together for the good of this thing. Now I am not pleased with the behavior of some of our city council members. Because I feel that they don't show that they care about this city. You should care enough to put aside your personal agendas and the political agenda. This has been going on for a while now, a few months and it makes it hard for this body to work together effectively. Several things come to our attention. First is election time. So, some political posturing is being played and it's being done at the expense of the residents of this city. Another big issue is, when we were presented with the balanced budget at our last city council meeting in July. It did not pass. Even though the council members had four meetings prior to that, to express what their concerns were from the past year. We have always all been here through the past year. So we knew what expenses were being approved at each meeting. We are so used to having our agenda, put before us and then we have a motion to suspend the rules. It hurt us this time, because to suspend the rules to pass our budget. We need the 10 votes, and we couldn't even get them to pass the budget on time, and to continue to work on whatever areas we think we need to do, because we can do that. And I know there was at least four me. They worked

very hard on our budget. The Mayor, and Elizabeth Kubal continue to ask for input into the budget. And all of these things now suddenly need to be done. In August, July was not good enough. By us not passing our budget by the end of the first quarter in the fiscal year. It also placed us under different legal ramifications. We were not told about these ramifications yes we should look them up, but being that our budget chair, knew about them and did not even share it with us until after the meeting, it eliminated us from having our budget passed. And I just think, to be fair with everybody and to take care of this city, that when you're scheduling a budget or special meeting you need to check with the committee members. And in this case, even the Mayor, and the Comptroller so that all could be present. If then Monday night meeting was not going to be attended by everybody that could make a decision on it, it should not have continued. It looks like on the video that a meeting was going on without a quorum on July, 27<sup>th</sup>, then when you look at the newspaper it looked like a meeting when on that's on July 28<sup>th</sup> when the newspaper came out and it looked like the council had made some decisions. This was not a meeting with the full quorum so it should not have continued and it made no fiscal or common sense to have a meeting without including the Mayor or the Comptroller in the scheduling. So, I just think that in the future, we need to be informed by people that are Chairman, we need to have a responsibility to other Committee Members, and the budget not passing under the first quarter cost this city more money, because we need to have been out on bonds trying to use utilize the lower interest rate that is available to us, but instead we haven't even passed the budget yet, and then according to this newspaper. We're looking at September 21<sup>st</sup> to pass our budget and this is something that we need to decide between the council members, It is not something that we need to have out in the newspaper and on live stream. So, I'm just saying that it's a shame that we are conducting business like this and we need to do better. And lastly, to the residents, I just want this to understand that we are going to continue to work for their better good. We're going to follow any COVID-19 guidelines that we have been subjected to and continue to do business on their behalf. Thank you, I yield my time.

## **DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS**

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Moving on Item 17 Department Head Comments.

**JASMYNE HUMBLE:**

Evening everyone. Real quick, I just want to remind everyone about city stickers. If you have not gotten an email from me or Elizabeth, please contact myself. I'm not sure if everyone is aware but I am the one who answers all of the emails that come through our website so I've been trying my best to keep on top of those. City stickers will continue August 1st through the 14th and that will continue I believe that is a Friday, August 14. So, I want to go on record saying that, that will continue in that building at that drive-up location. And then also I want to remind everyone to take their census since Barbie's not here. The ECDA is in the process of planning census block parties and those will be in the wards that have the low response count, so it won't be in every single ward but we will be in communication with those low response words. And then lastly I posted. Today, intern for the marketing and communications department. So if anyone knows of any students. We are looking for fall intern. Thank you.

**ELIZABETH KUBAL:**

Mayor, Corporation Counsel, I just wanted to write to you regarding some statements that need to be given clarity, regarding the special budget committee meeting held on Monday, July 27, 2020, 2020, therefore after its completion I did go to the website and watch the entire budget committee on that day. I was surprised that some of the comments and how incredibly incorrect they were.

1. There was a general discussion regarding paying for "Consultant Salaries", and how now the administration is showing paying for this function as a potential bonded capital money. First of all, Consultants do not have salaries, only employees have salaries from their respective employer. Consultants have fees that are invoiced. They are paid for the accounts payable and get 1099 at the end of the year if necessary. The Engineer, current and past has always been paid from the capital fund, sometimes other funds like TIF's are charged is the engineering work was completed within the list of qualified expenditures. In fact, Dave Tyson former City Engineer was paid from this fund for all general fees as far back as my system goes and archives, which is the year 2000. That is two decades and potentially it goes back further than my records reflect. The rationale has always been at the engineer and his or her firm will constantly be working on the betterment of capital investments and the general overall infrastructure of the city of Kankakee. As far as the Network Consultant, this to

under the rationale that the network infrastructure support is related to our capital investment within our city technological network. The current consultant have been paid from this fund since May of 2015, from the very same capital ledger account, simply by adding additional monies to capital funds from the potential bonding on these two counts is to only continue recording expenditures for these consultant fees identically as it has been in the past with the prior administration. Now, adding the planning consultant to this capital money request is a new request. It was my decision to do this, the line of thinking was the same as both the Engineer and Network Consultant. Our current Planner is not an employee of the former Planner was and the majority of the current Planners work is directly tied to supporting capital investment infrastructure and economic growth. It seemed only logical to add the current Planner to the capital fund. Ideally, May - August 2020 in the general fund budget at \$13,000 per month as that has been the average this totals \$52,000. I resolve, we will not have the capital money I'm so early fall. 2. There was a statement made that in 2018, \$1 million was taken out of TIF 8 to balance the general fund. I believe Alderman Dave Crawford made this statement. This is completely untrue. And quite honestly horrified that a city council member thought this happened with no major incentives or redevelopment happening during that period. The facts are that in fiscal year 2018, the total paid from TIF 8 expenditures excluding bond payments of course was \$1100. In fiscal year 2019, the total paid from TIF 8 expenditures, excluding bond payments as well was \$70,406. It was mostly included the payments to Frank Kohler for his services as the economic development consultant, these numbers came from the artists. So, between the two years, \$71,506,00 was spent out of TIF 8 excluding bond payments. This is a far cry for \$1 million. 3. There was a statement made of the city of Kankakee has not had a bond rating for three years, I believe this was stated by Alderman Tyler Tall. Yes, the city currently does not have a bond rating due to untimely audits. This has been a very unfortunate situation to that occurred for variety of reasons and is being remediated quickly. In 2 to 3 weeks the city of Kankakee will be completely current with this audit. However, the city has been without a bond rating for 10 months, not three years. These were three major statements in my opinion needed to have formal correction. Please let me know if you have any other



questions, I'll be happy to share these facts with the entire budget committee. When we resume. *(Read by Mayor Wells-Armstrong in the absence of the Comptroller).*

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** I sent out updates on Friday night I just want to remind the community that Aunt Martha's, in addition to both of our hospitals Riverside and St Mary's, Aunt Martha's is now offering a mobile COVID-19 testing unit for residents who have mobility issues so they cannot get out, they can call (708)747-7441 for one to reserve the mobile unit at their location. Again, the both hospitals are continuing to provide testing as Aunt Martha's is, but Aunt Martha has also introduced a mobile unit. Also, I did mention in my updates at the Municipal League has drafted a model ordinance to institute face coverings and enforcement at the local level. So, we want to really be mindful wearing our masks covering our nose and our mouth and proper hand, washing frequent hand washing and covering our coughs and sneezes. Vehicle Stickers as Jasmyne already touched on that there'll be sold at the drive-up locations until August 14<sup>th</sup>. They are now \$70 per vehicle and the police will be writing tickets if you do not have a sticker those tickets are \$100. Jewel, there was some complaints we saw on social media we have people that like to complain. I guess they're not really looking for a resolution they just want to complain. We do look at social media we saw complaints coming in about Jewels. So, I have met with the Regional Manager at Jewels, the compactor in the back of the store has been pulled inspected in resealed. They pulled weeds last week, the Regional Manager advised that when waste management picks up the compactor to dump it sometimes liquid does come out because of fruits and vegetables. They are doing everything they can to stay on top of that situation. He advised that do not pour milk in the compactor and we also discussed renovating that store. I explained to them that the city adopted a Riverfront Master Plan in 2018. That store is within 4.5 miles of Riverfront property to be developed. They need to update the store. So, they're looking at doing at least a half a million dollars of renovation. This year, so I wanted to let the community know that. The last thing, Amita St Mary's Food Drive, they have they have it once a month which is tomorrow, Tuesday, August 4th from 3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. and I believe it's at St. Rose's parking lot. So, if you know anyone experiencing food insecurity, please let them know that they'll be available. They have partnered with



the Northern Illinois Food Bank, and they come here once a month and they give out food in our community, so please share that. In terms of special meetings, again I think we stress that one. When Elizabeth and I schedule a special meeting, as we stated, we had four meetings so that means we had three extra budget committee meetings. We always check with each other. She and I will check with each other, she's got three boys I think she's pretty public about that. So, I'll check with her and say hey this is nice work with you, we always checked with my schedule, we always check with the chair, which happens to be Alderman O'Brien in this case. So, it's just courtesy that if you're going to schedule special meeting that you contact us and let us coordinate that meeting. To just schedule a meeting, and then, it gave the appearance that people didn't care and they didn't show up. They don't even notify you know or ask if this time works for them and I think that's really unfair we need to be better, and treat each other better, and be professional, so if you have to schedule a special meeting, you know the chair should definitely be in communication with their vice chair, the people who are on the committee and have the appropriate staff that need to attend that committee. Alderman Curtis, I just wanted to give you a heads up to be looking for an email for Linh, we had a question about some fees.

**ALD CURTIS:**

*(inaudible)*

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Okay, thank you. Ordinance, Alderman Tall responsible *(inaudible)* ordinance. Someone called me to follow up on this, I just wanted to flag that for you. Public Safety, I have seen a lot of information out. Chief and I are pulling data right now, we are looking at. For example, does it make sense for us to spend thousands of dollars on equipment or should we be putting those resources somewhere else. And so we are pulling data right now. We are looking at for example, does it make sense for us to spend thousand of dollars on equipment or should we be putting those resources somewhere else? We are pulling data right now. I think she pulled it, Eileen thank you. To see when we're getting calls, what's the percentage of calls that are asked that actually require a police response. People want to respond but they may not need to be a police response. So, we want to analyze that and see what those numbers are and what would be an appropriate response. So, I've sent that to the public safety to you to discuss with your

committee, our Police and Fire Commission, State's Attorney's office, the NAACP, and HR. So, we need to get together in the coming days and have some conversations about that. Thank you all. This time I have nothing further. I'll take a motion to adjourn please.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**ALD LEWIS:** So move.

**ALD MALONE MARSHALL:** Second.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Motioned by Alderwoman Lewis and Seconded by Alderwoman Malone Marshall. All in favor, aye?

**COUNCIL:** Aye.

**MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG:** Opposed same sign. We are adjourned. Thank you.